

Dear Senator Bayer and Members of the Committee,

I was recently made aware that SB1520 would lower barriers to shared renewable energy in Oregon, and I'm writing to express my support for the bill and to encourage you to support its passage.

I'm a member of Seeds for the Sol, a new Corvallis-based group whose goal is to provide no-interest loans to people who otherwise could not afford the up-front costs of installing solar panels. Our "loans" are repaid as community members receive their state and federal tax credits--and then reinvested to put help more local citizens get solar power. We've encountered challenges in getting things going because the laws and policies that exist don't apply to the way we're trying to do this. I've come to see more clearly how important it is to put laws into place that make it EASY and INEXPENSIVE for citizens to work together to organize local renewable energy projects.

Corvallis has more than 25 organizations that are working on issues related to creating a sustainable future for our community, our state, our country, our world. With so many residents in support of local renewable energy initiatives, legislation that makes it easier is vital.

Thank you for your time,

Micki Reaman
Corvallis, OR